



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS
2000 NAVY PENTAGON
WASHINGTON DC 20350-2000

OPNAVINST 3600.3C
N96
16 Feb 2018

OPNAV INSTRUCTION 3600.3C

From: Chief of Naval Operations

Subj: POLICY FOR THE MATERIAL AND TACTICAL CERTIFICATION OF CRUISE
MISSILE CAPABLE SURFACE SHIPS AND SUBMARINES

Encl: (1) Cruise Missile Certification Guidelines

1. Purpose. To establish guidance for material certification and tactical qualifications of cruise missile capable surface ships and submarines for the safe operation, maintenance, and tactical employment of cruise missiles. This instruction is being reissued with a new date, updated version and signature authority to meet Chief of Naval Operations' age requirement for Office of the Chief of Naval Operations (OPNAV) instructions.
2. Cancellation. OPNAVINST 3600.3B.
3. Scope and Applicability. This instruction applies to all cruise missile-capable surface ships and submarines. It provides guidance to assist the governing technical agencies and type commanders in issuing directives and instructions for cruise missile certifications.
4. Background. Cruise missiles provide a wide range of tactical employment applications. Technological advances and capability improvements continually broaden the complexity of cruise missile system maintenance, operation, and employment. The increased war fighting emphasis on cruise missiles dictates the need to establish and maintain a standard process to train and qualify shipboard personnel, and to verify the crew's understanding of cruise missile systems and their tactical employment. The cruise missile certification process contains two distinct components: material certification and cruise missile tactical qualification. Cruise missile capable ships and submarines must attain material certification prior to on-loading conventional missiles. Material certification validates system integrity, including certification that the system is safe to load missiles, and evaluates the crew's ability to safely and effectively maintain and operate the equipment. Inherent in the material certification process is verification that proper tools, documentation, maintenance procedures, on board repair parts, test equipment, and system level knowledge are adequate to support system operation. Additionally, cruise missile capable ships and submarines must demonstrate and be certified to minimum tactical proficiency skills necessary to support tactical employment in a variety of scenarios.
5. Responsibilities. The governing technical agencies for cruise missile material certifications are Program Executive Office, Unmanned Aviation and Strike Weapons for surface ships and guided missile submarines (SSGN) and Naval Sea Systems Command for nuclear-powered

attack submarines (SSN). Tactical proficiency qualification standards are the exclusive province of the fleet commanders but, at a minimum, must include the specific requirements contained in enclosure (1).

a. Completion of the cruise missile certification process is required for all Tomahawk and Harpoon capable surface ships and submarines.

b. The certification process for surface ships and submarines must be common within platform configurations (surface, SSGN, SSN). Certifications are valid for all theaters of operation.

c. Cruise missile capable ships and submarines must attain material certification prior to loading cruise missiles. Interim material certifications may be granted at the discretion of the governing technical agency.

(1) Material certification occurs after new construction, initial system installation, and integrated combat system modernization periods and includes the material certification requirements contained in enclosure (1).

(2) Material recertification is required when significant upgrades and changes are made to the systems, or when deemed necessary by the governing technical agencies.

(3) Material recertification will also be required when both conditions found in subparagraphs 5c(3)(a) and 5c(3)(b) exist:

(a) any availability that has the system powered down or in layup for 180 days or longer; and

(b) when deemed necessary by both the governing technical agencies and type commanders.

d. Following initial certification or subsequent recertification, the appropriate technical agency must certify to the type commander that the Tomahawk and or Harpoon weapon system material readiness is satisfactory.

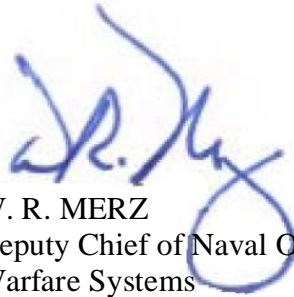
e. Type commanders must establish programs to certify crews to handle and tactically employ cruise missiles. A tactical employment proficiency qualification process, conducted when and as determined by the type commander, must be completed after completion of the material certification, and prior to start of tasking to launch or employ cruise missiles. These programs must include a periodic recertification process to ensure proficiency is maintained as a continuum of readiness. The minimum elements of the type commander tactical qualification process are contained in enclosure (1).

f. Requisite training to support the material certification and tactical qualification processes will be determined by the governing technical agencies and Naval Education and Training Command, and be incorporated into all appropriate courses of instruction.

g. Inspections, as well as certification and decertification determinations must be documented via naval message.

6. Records Management. Records created as a result of this instruction, regardless of media and format, must be managed per Secretary of the Navy (SECNAV) Manual 5210.1 of January 2012.

7. Review and Effective Date. Per OPNAVINST 5215.17A, OPNAV Surface Warfare (N96) will review this instruction annually on the anniversary of its issuance date to ensure applicability, currency, and consistency with Federal, Department of Defense, SECNAV, and Navy policy and statutory authority using OPNAV 5215/40 Review of Instruction. This instruction will be in effect for 5 years, unless revised or cancelled in the interim, and will be reissued by the 5-year anniversary date if it is still required, unless it meets one of the exceptions in OPNAVINST 5215.17A, paragraph 9. Otherwise, if the instruction is no longer required, it will be processed for cancellation as soon as the cancellation is known following the guidance in OPNAV Manual 5215.1.



W. R. MERZ
Deputy Chief of Naval Operations,
Warfare Systems

Releasability and distribution:

This instruction is cleared for public release and is available electronically only via Department of the Navy Issuances Web site, <http://doni.documentservices.dla.mil>

CRUISE MISSILE CERTIFICATION GUIDELINES

Areas listed in paragraphs 1 and 2 of this enclosure (1), must be inspected, as a minimum, during the process of cruise missile certification.

1. Material Certification

- a. Inspect the complete weapon system installation, including safety and security devices.
- b. Conduct system material checks to ascertain the state of material readiness and that the system is safe to load missiles.
- c. Evaluate in-place integrated logistics support, including onboard repair part inventory.
- d. Conduct inventory on required system and maintenance documentation, tools, and test equipment.
- e. Evaluate crew's ability to properly power-up equipment, conduct procedural checks to verify system performance, and operate system components.

2. Tactical Qualification

- a. Evaluate the adequacy of crew manning, formal schools, and shipboard training to support cruise missile employment.
- b. Evaluate the crew's knowledge and use of tactical doctrine for all cruise missile systems.
- c. Witness and evaluate the crew's ability to correlate and use over the horizon data inputs for mission planning and cruise missile employment.
- d. Examine and evaluate the crew's proficiency in operating cruise missile system components.
- e. Witness and evaluate casualty response involving the missile and fire control system operation.
- f. Exercise and examine command and control operating procedures regarding the release and execution of cruise missile firings.